

SCENES AT OPENING OF 56TH CONGRESS

PEN PICTURES OF WELL KNOWN MEMBERS

Pennsylvania Did Not Get the Speakership but Had Everything Else Her Own Way—Mr. Connell Fortunate in Selection of Seats—Appearance of Mr. Grow—Republican Responsibility.

Special Correspondence of The Tribune.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The opening day of congress was conspicuously a Pennsylvania day. The most important matter brought to the attention of the senate was the presentation of Senator Quay's credentials as an appointee of the governor of Pennsylvania. It is an old question that has been decided both ways in the senate. A speedy conclusion of the matter by the elections committee is promised, and every indication is favorable to Colonel Quay. At least that is the current belief about the capitol. As a senator, Mr. Quay's influence was undisputed, but Mr. Quay's individuality in the expected decision of the senate sustaining Governor Stone's appointment is a matter of no small importance. It is a vital question of the preservation of the senate. Such eminent Republican leaders as Aldrich, Hoar, Chandler, Lodge, Platt and Hawley would resist any suggestion of a change in a matter of this kind as an impertinent interference. The senate is urged, must protect its own existence against the annihilating and disintegrating results of factional party disputes. Four states are now partly denied representation in the senate on account of factional revolts in state legislatures. And if four senators, why not forty? And if forty, then why not the absolute dissolution of the senate? It is not probable that technicality or precedent will be allowed to longer menace the very existence of the senate. That is really the question in Mr. Quay's case, and the confident expression heard on all hands, that he will be promptly seated.

Pennsylvania didn't get the speakership, but had everything else its own way in the organization of the house. Mr. Harmer, of Philadelphia, was the oldest member to be elected, and the honor of swearing in the new speaker fell to him. He showed great feebleness from recent illness, and left a sick bed to honor his state in the discharge of a function that has long distinguished it. It is much more than an empty honor to be conferred on a man of his age, for it emphasizes the wisdom of the people in sending experienced and upright men to congress. It seems hard for this average constituency to appreciate this fact, but to one here who is disinterested in the individuality of congressmen, it easily explains the hesitancy so painfully apparent in the majority of representatives.

Big Salaried Officers. But the house rarely fails to appreciate a capable and efficient officer. Hence, his friends say, there was no opposition to the re-election of Colonel McDowell, as clerk of the house. And that means a number of big-salaried places for others in Pennsylvania. The Democratic candidate against McDowell is also a distinguished Pennsylvanian. The clerkship of the house is the richest and biggest plum on the tree, and of late, whether shaken by Republicans or Democrats, a Pennsylvanian always falls in a soft place. Pennsylvania enjoys the distinction, too, of being the best dressed state in the house. Colonel Bingham is a fashion-plate that defies duplication. He is always faultlessly dressed. Mr. Dalzell is a good dresser, without Colonel Bingham's form or pretence. Mr. Connell's clothes are like the man, modest and severely correct. The entire delegation is conspicuous for good dressing, and it means something in an aggregation of indifferently appeared men.

The floral contributions were unusually gorgeous and elaborate. There were roses, great anchors and shields and horseshoes, but in the magnificent keystone that covered Representative Connell's desk a Pennsylvania woman carried off the honors. It was composed of red and white roses. The base was a white rose with the "Eleventh Pennsylvania District" in red roses. It was photographed by an artist who said it was the most artistic, appropriate and elegant floral decoration he had ever seen. It was sent by Mrs. Annie Fulton, of Scranton.

Appearance of Mr. Grow. The only ex-speaker in the house is the memorable Galusha A. Grow. He enjoyed, with Mr. Harmer, the distinction of selecting his own seat before the drawing of the lots. His choice is a trifle longer, and stands out in defiance of all restraint over the gray matter that sustains it, but does not appear any whiter than it did twenty years ago. His movements are agile and vigorous, and his voice rings as clear as of yore.

With the rarest exception the president's message is wearisome and commonplace, amounting to little more than a carefully digested compilation of departmental reports. Few members pay the slightest attention to its reading from the clerk's desk. Mr. Grow, among the exceptions, and when the reading is concluded he is promptly on his feet, ready with a suggestion to discuss the paper. It is a courtesy, he thinks, that is due the chief executive of the nation. The contents of the message offers great opportunity for

HOLIDAY BARGAINS IN Oriental Rugs and Carpets

Every housewife appreciates handsome rugs and carpets above anything in the way of furnishings for the home.

Make Your Wife a Present

of something in this line. It will please her and she will be delighted at your good judgment as well. During the holidays we will have many special bargains in

Oriental Rugs and Wilton Carpets

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speechmaking, but Mr. Grow seems to be alone in the perception and appreciation of the fact.

Mr. Connell's Luck.

Drawing of seats is an interesting feature of the organization, because the selection of a seat is a matter of blind luck. It is of great importance to the member, if he is to participate actively in the proceedings and debates of the session. And Pennsylvania added luck to its other laurels in the drawing contest. Mr. Connell was the fourth name called and he had the option of the best seat on the republican side, Colonel Bingham was also among the lucky ones, and selected a seat in a direct and oblique focus of the "speaker's eye." Other members of the delegation are desirably seated, with the exception of Mr. Dalzell, who did not even have the choice of evils in his selection of a seat. It was cruelly suggested that his hard luck was a sort of retribution that comes sooner or later to the politician who defies party organization and assumes a virtue superior to party affiliations. Of course, it is a mere coincidence, having no relation to a party disrupter, he ranks well among the ablest men on the republican side, and if ability alone controlled such assignments he would unquestionably succeed to the ways and means chairmanship, Pennsylvania was the first important state to endorse the selection of seats. Colonel Henderson, speaker of the house, and if current reports are half-way true, the delegation will be appropriately recognized and maintain its historical reputation in the forthcoming committee assignments.

Republican Responsibility.

What congress will do with the momentous questions that imperatively demand immediate consideration nobody knows. The obligation is with the republican party. With a working majority both branches of congress the responsibility is entirely with that party. The country is at the threshold of another presidential campaign and the eventuality will depend very largely upon the record of the incumbent congress. There is a heavy responsibility at the very close of the session that the majority has but a single aim, and that is to thoroughly unite in the purpose to redeem every promise the party has made to the country. There was masterful wisdom in the election of a speaker who is amply equipped and so singularly qualified to preside over the house. The election of Colonel Henderson is a distinct step in the direction of a courageous assumption of republican responsibility. Even the opposition is not reluctant to concede his ability, fairness and admirable courage.

It is to be a business session, and the close is to be effected as speedily as the welfare of the country permits. The adoption of the Reed rules means that no "fooling" on the part of an irresponsible minority will be allowed. The Democratic leaders are astounded at the complete unification of the majority. It is expected that the first day of the session would disclose republican friction and disagreement, and they had already settled down to the conclusion that a Democratic victory in 1900 was inevitable. The faith of the average Democrat in the impossible duties even the wildest speculation. It is a party without leadership, and is the only political organization in this country that has ever won a victory without issues or leadership. That is exactly the position of the minority in this congress, and yet it is hard to find one Democrat in Washington who is not as positively jubilant over "the certain election of William J. Bryan to the presidency in 1900."

The new minority leader in the house, Mr. Richardson, is without a single element of leadership. His years' experience in congress have only won for him the questionable title of "Slippery Jim." At most anybody, it was thought, would be an improvement on Bailey, but the debate on the Roberts resolution proved that Richardson is unequal even to the simplest emergency. What may then be expected in the debates to follow hereafter, on the great questions that now confront congress.

Penny.

AN ALASKAN RAILWAY.

Will Run Through Canada to Chilkoot Pass.

Montreal, Dec. 7.—The Canada Gazette announced the application for incorporation of the Alaska and Northwestern Railroad company, to construct and operate a railway from a point at or near Pyramid Harbor, on Lynn canal, or from a point on or near the international boundary between Canada and the United States, in the territory of Lynn canal, thence through the Chilkoot Pass, and thence by way of the Dalton trail to a point at or near Fort Selkirk, on the Yukon river in the northwest territories; also to build and operate tramways, and for other purposes related.

DWYER DROPPED DEAD.

Divine Healer's Deliverance Looked Like a Miracle.

Minneapolis, Dec. 7.—A special to the Times from Butte, Montana, says: Prof. Malachy Dwyer, during a heated religious discussion with J. S. Charlebois, the divine healer, attempted to strike the latter. Charlebois called on God to protect him, and Dwyer dropped dead.

D. & H. Expenditures.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 7.—Five million dollars are to be expended by the Delaware and Hudson R.R. company in the replenishing of its rolling stock. Orders have been placed for forty-two locomotives of the latest type, at a cost of \$1,000,000. The latest of these orders was given yesterday for 1,000 freight cars to the American Car and Foundry company, the principal offices of which are in New York city.

Allen Will Manage Cincinnati.

Indianapolis, Dec. 7.—Bob Allen today signed a contract with John T. Brush, owner of the Cincinnati base ball club, to manage that team for next season.

Working for the Convention.

Philadelphia, Dec. 7.—Common council today voted unanimously to support the movement to bring the Republican national convention to this city next year, and appointed a joint committee of twenty members to co-operate with outside organizations in the work. It is expected that council will appropriate \$10,000 or \$15,000 towards the fund of \$100,000, which is being raised.

Palmer Is Not Out for Bryan.

Detroit, Dec. 7.—A Tribune special from Howell, Mich., says: Hon. John M. Palmer, the best known republican Democrat, positively denies an alleged interview asserting that he had come out in favor of William J. Bryan.

STRUGGLE WITH MAD DOG.

Miss McAteer Chokes an Animal Until It Is Powerless to Do Harm.

Pittsburg, Dec. 7.—A mad dog terrorized citizens on the streets of Wilkesburg and had the run of his own way until Miss Myrtle McAteer, the well known tennis player, and champion in the women's double of the United States, grasped it by the throat and held the struggling, maddened creature until aid came to her. The dog was coming up the street and everyone was making way for it as Miss McAteer came out of the gate at her home. Instead of attempting to shun it, she suddenly clutched it by the throat and choked the rabid animal. She held the dog in this manner until the conductor of a passing street car came, and he, instead of doing any material good, only maddened it more by kicking it.

Finally she became so exhausted that she loosened her grip, but the dog was so weak there was little danger of his doing harm, at least until he revived. Without waiting for any one to aid her, she went on to the store, which was her destination, and attended to her shopping. Her dress was badly torn in the struggle with the desperate animal, whose bite meant death, but she was not injured in any way and suffered no bruises or shock.

HOME FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN

Will Be Erected in Philadelphia by Peter Widener.

Philadelphia, Dec. 7.—Peter A. B. Widener, the millionaire traction magnate of this city, today announced that he has purchased 17½ acres of land at Logan, a suburb of Philadelphia, on which he intends to erect and endow a home and school for crippled children at a cost of \$2,000,000. The announcement was made in a letter from Mr. Widener to Mayor Ashbridge. Mr. Widener stated that the object of the institution will be the care of helpless children.

The home is to be placed where they can receive such medical and surgical attention as will cure or allay their deformities, and where they can receive, not only general education, but an education in such industries as will assist them toward self support.

PELOZI WILL BE RETURNED.

Papers to Secure Delivery of Man to Pennsylvania Authorities.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The state department today forwarded to the authorities of Pennsylvania the papers to secure the delivery of the Pennsylvania officer of Angelo Pelozzi, the alleged murderer of Antonio Spino, in Lackawanna county. The latter is held prisoner by the Italian authorities at Naples pending the arrival of these papers.

BASE BALL DEAL.

May Be Effected Between Louisville and Pittsburg.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—President Barney Dreyfus and Secretary Harry Pulliam, of the Louisville base ball club, today called on President Hart, of the Chicago team, and made an offer to sell the Louisville club to Chicago. President Hart refused to pay the sum asked, but was willing to consider the offer. The meeting was secret, and neither side was willing to say what were the figures named by either side.

PAN-AMERICAN EXHIBITION.

Massachusetts Board of Managers to Meet Today.

Buffalo, Dec. 7.—Colonel John B. Weber, commissioner general of the Pan-American exhibition, left for Boston last night to attend a meeting of the Massachusetts board of Pan-American managers today.

CHARGED WITH EMBEZZLEMENT

B. S. Ketchum Arrested by Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen.

George F. Thomas, of 324 Fourteenth street, went before Alderman Kason on December 5 and representing the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen swore out a warrant for the arrest of B. S. Ketchum.

MONKEY ADOPTS A KITTEN.

Miss Jocko the Wonder of Sightseers at Juneau, Alaska.

From the Chicago Tribune. One of the most unique sights of Juneau, Alaska, and a source of never failing interest to tourists who visit that place, in the tender care of Miss Jocko, said to be the only monkey in Alaska, for a little foundling kitten.

HAILSTORMS AND ARTILLERY.

Some Successful Experiments Made Quite Recently in Italy.

In London some twenty-five years ago a fog of almost unprecedented duration and density hid, at such darkness, notably on a great cattle show held at Islington, that it was seriously proposed on future visitations of the kind to clear the air by artillery.

Why Suffer? Treatment on Approval.

ERIE MEDICAL CO., BUFFALO, N. Y.

Friday all day sale of domestics. 25 pieces of extra heavy unbleached cotton flannel, sell every where at 10c. Our price 6c. Apron checks in white and Indian Head, 12 1/2c grade. 7c. All wool shirting flannel, 80c grade. Special. 20c. One lot of Honorable flannel. 80c grade. Special. 25c.

THE LEADER. Scranton Store, 124-126 Wyoming Avenue. Outing flannel skirt patterns. Extraordinary offer for Friday of five hundred good quality outing flannel patterns, with crochet edge, never sold for less than 25c in any store in the United States. This is an extraordinary bargain at a special Friday price. 15c.

Friday's great pre-holiday bargains at sacrifice prices. In order to make room for our special holiday department we shall be compelled to sacrifice some of our goods—especially such as usually occupy much space. Dress Goods, Domestic Goods, Millinery and All-Wool Blankets will each have a separate inning today. All prices here advertised are VERY special, and for one day only.

Cut prices in hosiery Friday

Ladies' wool hose—All sizes, very good quality, regular price 25c. Friday only. 15c.

Children's cotton hose—Sizes 5 to 10, extra quality cotton ribbed hose, fast black with double sole and heel, regular price 15c. On Friday. 7c.

Women's fleece lined hose—Guaranteed fast black, very good quality, worth 19c. Special price today. 10c.

Blankets and comforts sale

All of our \$3.50, \$4.00 and \$4.50 blankets in white, red and grey, in one lot. Choice of any on Friday. 2.98.

All of our \$5.00 blankets, Choice of any on Friday. 3.55.

All of our \$5.50 blankets, in one lot, on Friday. 3.98.

All of our \$6.00 and \$7.00 blankets. Special on Friday. 4.98.

Special sale of comforts at 49c, 75c, 98c and \$1.25, worth twenty-five per cent. more.

Cut prices on underwear

35c jersey ribbed undershirts at 18c—These are made with crochet edge, and are of the quality that ordinarily sells for 35c. Special for one day at half price. 18c.

39c ladies' union suits at 18c—Jersey ribbed union suits of the 39c quality in ecru only. Very special 18c.

Cut prices on Friday in yarns

Germantown yarn, 12 1/2c grade. Special 10c.

Germantown knitting wool, regular price 23 cts. Special. 19c.

Shetland and Saxony Yarn, the 12 1/2-cent grade. Special. 8c.

Children's cotton and wool underwear

15c underwear for 9c—A special lot of children's ribbed vests, with high neck and long sleeves; real value 15c. Special Friday price 9c.

Children's wool underwear—Extra good quality natural wool underwear, in shirts, pants and drawers, at the following special prices: 18, 20 and 22, worth from 19c to 29c. Special Friday price. 17c.

Sizes 24, 26 and 28, worth from 35c to 43c. Special Friday price. 29c.

Sizes 30, 32 and 34, worth from 43c to 50c. Special Friday price. 39c.

Friday sale of fine table damask

One lot of remnants of table damask, regular price 39c. Special on Friday. 29c.

Fifteen pieces of bleached or unbleached table damask, 35c grade. Special on Friday. 22c.

One lot of high class cream table damask, 75c grade. Special on Friday. 46c.

One lot of fine quality cream table damask, sixty cent grade. Special on Friday. 39c.

Dress goods for Friday's sale

One lot of dress goods, all this season's fabrics, would be cheap at 39c. Special on Friday. 29c.

One lot of novelty dress goods, including chevrons and chevrons, in black and all colors, 59c grade. Special on Friday. 39c.

54-inch camel's hair serge, in black and colors, 98c grade. Special on Friday. 65c.

42-inch black storm serge, 59c grade. Special. 43c.

All of our 98c black serge. Special on Friday. 69c.

All of our \$1.25 black crepon. Special on Friday. 98c.

All of our \$1.75 black crepon. Special on Friday. 1.25.

One lot of pure silk crepon, in black only, retail price has been \$5.00. Special on Friday. 1.85.

One lot of broadcloth, real value \$1.25. Special. 83c.

One lot of high class camel's hair plaids, 75c grade. 43c.

Friday sale of women's gloves

Women's gloves—500 pair of fine quality lamb's skin gloves, with two patent clasps, in all shades of tan, brown, pearl, black and white, with gusseted fingers, a glove that will ordinarily cost you \$1.25. Here on Friday 79c.

Children's gloves—Fur top and fleece lined gloves for boys, girls and misses, 50c kind on Friday, 39c. 75c kind on Friday, 59c.

Cut price on fancy ribbons

Special sale of all silk ribbon, in both satin and fancy, in the following numbers—22, 40, 60 and 80, real value 20c. Special. 12c.

One lot of all silk satin ribbon, No. 40, in black only, real value 29c. Friday only. 19c.

Special sale of all silk satin and gros-grain ribbons in all shades as follows: No. 7, 7c; No. 9, 8c; No. 12, 10c; No. 15, 12 1/2c.

Forty-five pieces of No. 50 all silk taffeta ribbon, in black and colors, 23c grade. Special on Friday. 15c.

Special sale of remnants

50c rem'ts of plaids. 15c.

50c rem'ts of chevrets. 50c rem'ts of novelties. 50c rem'ts of blk goods. 75c rem'ts of w/poods. 75c rem'ts of chevrets. 75c rem'ts of plaids. 75c rem'ts of venetians. \$2 rem'ts of serges. \$2 rem'ts of vigoreaux. \$2 rem'ts of venetians. \$2 rem'ts of w/poods.

50c rem'ts of w/poods. 50c rem'ts of chevrets. 50c rem'ts of plaids. 50c rem'ts of venetians. \$2 rem'ts of serges. \$2 rem'ts of vigoreaux. \$2 rem'ts of venetians. \$2 rem'ts of w/poods.

Friday morning between 8 and 10

Yard wide unbleached muslin, 5c grade. Special on Friday for two hours. 3c.

One lot of bleached muslin, slightly soiled, regular price 8c. Special on Friday for two hours. 5c.

25 pieces pure linen crash, 8c grade. Special on Friday for two hours. 4c.

One lot of 20-inch crash, in bleached and unbleached, standard retail price 10 cents. Special on Friday for 2 hours. 6c.

Sensible Gifts For Gentlemen

Men are generally practical. Nothing pleases a man more upon Christmas than to receive a sensible gift—we mean something useful.

Our store is full of useful things—the kind that make ideal holiday gifts. Among them are the very finest assortment of

Traveling Bags, Cases, Umbrellas, Smoking Jackets, Dress Suit Cases, Neckwear, Gloves, Hats, Etc.

We respectfully ask you to call and allow us to show you our magnificent stock. Should be pleased to have you look around, although you do not buy.

LOUIS H. ISAACS, Successor to Breason & Tullman, 412 Spruce Street.

method of dispersion of hail. Let me quote an instance just communicated to me. In various districts of Monferrato, in the Alta Italia, a violent thunder storm, accompanied by hail, was devastating a series of upland farms at Trino Vercellese, Canino, Pontestura, and Quarta. The storm was signaled to the people of San Giorgio Monferrato as "terribile," so they lost no time in endeavoring to give it a "warm reception." They had quite a park of artillery prepared, the cannon, as described by Signor Ottavi, being in great force. On came the storm cloud, and out flashed the volleys in rapid succession, till, after two hours' bombardment, the cloud revealed to the eye witnesses a large rent, through which the blue sky was visible. It thereafter drifted away, leaving the "colle grasso" (open hills), of which, according to Virgil, "Bauchus" (the grapevine) is so enamored, in full possession of all their menaced riches and smiling at the destruction they had escaped. Not a hailstone fell, but from the ragged edges of the retreat, being in great force, the hailstones, rammed in not very tightly, and plugged at the mouth with a stopper of seasoned wood, can, when fired off in repeated volleys, keep a hailcloud at bay, and even break it up and disperse it. Throughout Italy, but more particularly in the more robust, wealthier, more enterprising north, one reads of experiments tried with the most gratifying results in this new

practice more amusing and less costly than insurance. Of the two "charges" they prefer that of the "Unger cannon."

The Hypocrite. She—George, is that one of those cigars I gave you on your birthday? He—No! I'm saving those for my friends. She—You dear, self-sacrificing, unselfish man—Ohio State Journal.

Cheap Excursion to Washington, D. C. The Masonic lodges of the United States will commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the death of George Washington at Alexandria, Va., opposite Washington, Dec. 13 to 15. For the accommodation of those who desire to attend this ceremony the Lackawanna railroad will sell tickets from this station to Washington at a rate of one and one-third fare for the round-trip. These tickets will be valid Dec. 11 and 13. Persons holding them will be required to make a continuous journey in such direction. The return journey must be begun leaving Washington not later than Dec. 15. For further particulars apply to local agent.